मध्य प्रदेश में खनिजों के उत्खनन कार्य का निजीकरण

2869. **श्री राघवजी** : क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में किन-किन खनिजों के उत्खनन के कार्य निजी क्षेत्र को सौंपे जाने की योजना है; और

(ख) निजी क्षेत्र की कम्पनियों, जिनके साथ अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर किये जा चुके हैं या जिनके साथ इस संबंध में वार्ता चल रही है या जिनकी राज्य सरकार ने सिफारिश कर दी है, के नाम क्या है तथा किस खनिज के साथ उनका संबंध है ?

खान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव):(क) और (ख) मार्च, 1993 में घोषित की गई राष्ट्रीय खनिज नीति में आणविक और ईंधन खनिजों को छोड़कर, 13 खनिजों को सिर्फ सरकारी क्षेत्र द्वारा विदोहन करने के पूर्व आरक्षण को समाप्त कर दिया गया है । खनन कार्य करने के अधिकार, पूर्वेक्षण लाइसेंस द्वारा दिए जाते हैं और खनन पट्टे, खान और खनिज (विनियमन और विकास) अधिनियम, 1957 के तहत जारी किए जाते हैं, जिसमें सरकारी क्षेत्र और निजी क्षेत्र के आवेदकों के बीच कोई भेदभाव नहीं किया गया है । देश में बड़ी संख्या में खानों में पहले ही निजी क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत कार्य हो रहा है । चूंकि अब कोई भी खनिज (आणविक और ईंधन खनिजों को छोड़कर) सिर्फ सरकारी क्षेत्र द्वारा विदोहन के लिए आरक्षित नहीं है इसलिए किसी नये खनिज के विदोहन का कार्य निजी क्षेत्र को सौंपे जाने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Demand of Zinc and Lead

2870. SHRI RAHASB1HARI BARIK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the indigenous demand of zinc and Lead in the country;

(b) the position with regard to the production of these metals ;

(c) whether Government are able to meet the indigenous demand of these metals;

(d) if not, the steps taken to increase their production ; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The annual demand and production of Zinc and Lead by primary producers in the country during the last three years are as under:

(In tonnes)

Year	Zinc		Lead		
	Demand	Production	Year	Demand	Production
1991-92 . . .	1,30,000	1,01,206	1991-92	78,000	30,395
1992-93 . . .	1,35,000	1,26,600	1992-93	82,000	38,382
1993-94 . . .	1,45,000	1,43,962	1993-94	87,000	25,299

(c) Government does not supply these metals for meeting their demand. The j;ap between the indigenous production and demand is bridged by imports.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Setting up Consultative Committees of MPs

2871. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consultative Committees of the Members of Parliament for Various Ministries/Departments were conceived and set up ;

(b) what were the objectives of setting up of these Consultative Committees ;

(c) whether it is a fact that these committees were set up as a result of decision arrived at between Government and Opposition Parties ;

(d) whether such decisions have been followed during last three years, in letter and spirit;

(e) if so: whether there has been any deviation ;

(f) whether the working of these Consultative Committees require re-thinking; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (c) Informal Consultative Committees were first constituted in 1954. Sub sequently in 1969, as a result of consulta tions between the Government and Leaders of Parties in Parliament, Guidelines were formulated regarding the functioning of these Committees. The objectives of the Consultative Committees are to enable informal consultation between the

Government and Members of Parliament on the policies and programmes of the Government and the manner of implementation thereof ?

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (£) No, Sir. (g)

Does not arise.

Placing Orders by NMDC for Supply of Tyres

2872. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NMDC Limited has plac<Jd orders for supply of redial tyres to a Singapore based foreign company at a higher value worth about 70.000 US $ to be supplied FOB basis ex-Singapore Port or any other European ports ;

(b) whether the same company was earlier given orders at a lower value alongwith two foreign companies for trial run ;

(c) whether it is a fact that without completing the trail run mileage this foreign company has bagged orders from NMDC Limited at a higher price due to inclination of the management;

(d) whether objections were raised by financial experts of the company which were subsequently over ruled by the CMD; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and whether any investigations would be ordered if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) NMDC has reported that it placed orders in October, 1994 on MichiUine, Singapore for supply of 28 nos. Redial tyres at US $ 70,000. The unit rate of US $ 2500 per tyre in October, 1994 compares favourably with the unit rate of US $ 2495.13 at which Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), Malanjkhand placed orders in March, 1993 on the same firm.

(b) NMDC had earlier placed trial orders on Michiline for one set of 6 radial tyres in January, 1992 at a unit rate of US $ 2251.72 and subsequent^ in August, 1993 on three foreign com panies including Michiline for supply of one set of 6 nos. radial tyres. In the trial order placed in August, 1993, Michiline offered for trial purposes a special unit rate of US $ 2196.72 per tyre.

(c) No, Sir. The order was released on Michiline, Singapore after successful trial run of one set of 6 tyres received against the earlier trial order of January, 1992.

(d) The observations of the Finance Department as well as recommendations of the Technical Selection Committee (TSC) and the Production Department were considered by the competent authority before granting approval to the purchase proposal.

(e) Does not arise since the purchase rlecision is reported to be in conformity with past practice and the prescribed purchase procedures have been followed by the company.

Production Cost of Steel

2873. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of basic raw materials per tonne of steel in India has been amongst the lowest in the world ;

(b) if so, the comparative details there of;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the total cost of production of steel in India is high;

(d) the cost demands which have been contributing to the high cost of Indian Steels, the reasons therefor and the details thereof;

(e) whether any comparative study been made on the element-wise cost of production of steel in India and abroad; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) India has one of the lowest cost of iron ore per tonne of finished steel. The advantage in iron ore costs is largely offset by higher cost of coking coal per tonne of finished steel due to the poor quality of indigenous coking coal leading to high consumption.

(c) and (d) Higher input prices, poor quality of raw material, technological obsolescence coupled with outdated operational practices and higher incidence of taxes and levies are some of the main reasons for high cost of production of steel in India.

(e) and (f) In the absence of any authentic information on the cost of production of steel in other countries, it is not possible to compare the cost of production of steel in India with cost of production of steel in other countries.

Escalation in Sail Plants

2874. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of project delays and cost escalations in SAIL plants for modernisa-